(b)

Sl.	Category of Agents	No. of Agents in Bangalore City
1.	Standardized Agency System (SAS) Agents	4194
2.	Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojana (MPKBY) Agents	2045
3.	Public Provident Fund (PPF) Agents	1369
	TOTAL :	7608

(c) The percentage of commission paid to the Small Savings Agents working under different categories of agency systems for mobilizing investment under various savings schemes of the Government of India is as under:—

(i) Standardised Agency System (SAS) Agents:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Savings Scheme	Rate of commission
a.	1/2/3/5-Year Time Deposits	1%
b.	Monthly Income Account Scheme	1%
c.	Kisan Vikas Patras	1%
d.	National Saving Certificate (NSC) (VIII Issue)	1%
e.	Senior Citizens Savings Scheme	0.5%

(ii) Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojana (MPKBY) Agents are Paid commission at the rate of 4% for investments in Recurring Deposits.

(iii) Public Provident Fund (PPF) Agents are Paid commission at the rate of 1%.

(d) In all big post offices, as far as possible, separate working hours for agents is fixed to avoid inconvenience to the general public thereby averting long waiting period for general public.

(e) No, Sir.

Expansion of Telecommunications System in Gujarat

†3123. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether development and expansion of telecommunication has remained slow in rural and urban areas in Gujarat during the last three years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for accelerating the development and expansion of telecommunication; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The details of development works and achievements during the last three years *i.e.* 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are available in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below). The development work was not slow in view of target and achievements.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) In order to accelerate the expansion of Telecommunication Network in Gujarat Circle, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has formulated plans for provision of various telecom services during the year 2005-06 which is available in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Expansion of Telecom Network in Gujarat Telecom Circle during the last three years i.e. 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05

Sl. No.	Item	Target 2002-03	Ach. 2002-03	Target 2003-04	Ach. 2003-04	Target 2004-05	Ach. (Provisional) 2004-05
1.	Switching Capacity	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a)	Wireline*	1,52,000	2,79,488	9000	-6528	-	-51,480
(b)	WLL**	53,000	10,500	1,34,000	84,250	1,11,000	32,500
2.	Working Connections						
(a)	Wireline (gross)	1,90,000	3,07,044	15,000	1,89,631	-	71,544
(b)	WLL	37,700	1,934	1,09,000	2,787	1,00,000	43,379
(c)	CMTS	2,75,000	2,75,691	3,00,000	2,06,422	5,63,000	1,84,836
3.	New Telephone Exchanges	18	28	0	2	0	2

*Negative achievement in fixed line capacity is due to decommissioning of E-10–B Capacity against which new capacity was not allotted due to availability of spare capacity.
**Less achievement in WLL capacity and DELs was due to delayed supply on part of vendor.

Additional development activity which has been taken place in Gujarat during the last three years

S.No.	Services	Achievement
1.	Intelligent Services Network	New technology IN SCP has been commissioned at Ahmedabad
2.	Managed Lease Line Network	MLLN Services are being provided through 93 service nodes
3.	Broadband Services	Broadband Services have been made available at Ahmedabad
4.	ISDN	152 stations provided with ISDN service
5.	SBM to RSU conversion	599 SBM converted in CDOT RSU
6.	TAX	124 Kilo Circuits of TAX Lines commissioned during last three years

Statement II

Plans formulated the provision of various Telecom Services during the year 2005-06

S.No.	Scheme/Service	Target for Gujarat for the year 2005-06
1.	Cellular Mobile Connections	11,00,000
2.	Wireless Connections	49,000
3.	WLL Connections	65,000
4.	Broadband	83,750
5.	VPTs	1,305

Provision of Telephones to Panchayats in Chhattisgarh

†3124. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had initiated an action in the year 1994 which aimed at providing a telephone to each panchayat;

(b) if so, the amount spent annually by Government so far for achieving the said target and State-wise number of panchayats to which the said facility had been provided each year, amount provided for the same during the year 2004-05;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.